

## Message Text

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41

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE 1598

INFO USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRAGUE 3448

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OEXC, CZ

SUBJECT: IGOR KIPNIS IN PRAGUE

USIA FOR IEU

1. SUMMARY: A MUSICAL EVENING AT THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE ALLOWED THE CHIEF NEGOTIATORS TO MEET AND DISCUSS ACCEPTABLE FINAL LANGUAGE FOR THE U.S.-CZECHOSLOVAK CULTURAL-SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES AGREEMENT, WHICH WAS, IN FACT, CONCLUDED TWO DAYS LATER. END SUMMARY.

2. APPROXIMATELY 100 CZECHOSLOVAK GUESTS GATHERED AT THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE NOVEMBER 29 FOR A MUSICAL EVENING WITH IGOR KIPNIS, THE WELL-KNOWN AMERICAN HARPISCHORDIAT, WHO IS PRESENTLY ON A EUROPEAN TOUR. A SIMILAR EVENT FOR FIFTY GUESTS WAS HELD THE FOLLOWING EVENING AT THE PAO'S APARTMENT.

3. AMONG THE GUESTS AT THE AMBASSADOR'S WAS THE CHIEF NEGOTIATOR OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK SIDE IN THE EXCHANGES AGREEMENT TALKS, DR. MIROSLAV ZEMLA, DEPUTY HEAD OF THEMFA LEGAL DEPRTMNT. ZEMLA TWICE TOOK THE AMBASSADOR ASIDE TO DISCUSS THE OUTSTANDING UNRESOLVED ISUE IN THE TALKS; I.E., LANGUAGE THAT WOULD ALLOW FOR INDIVIDUAL EXCHANGES. THIS KEY ISSUE WAS A THORNY ONE THROUGHOUT THHE MANY MONTHS OF NEGOTIATIONS.

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4. IN BETWEEN SESSIONS OF TELLEMAN, BACH, AND SCARLATTI THE TWO NEGOTIATORS DISCUSSED THE ISSUE, WITH THE RESULT THAT WHEN THE FINAL NEGOTIATING SESSION TOOK PLACE TWO DAYS LATER, AGREEMENT WAS REACHED IN RELATIVELY SHORT ORDER.

5. THE GUESTS AT THE MUSICAL EVENING WHICH, IN ADDITION TO MFA AND OTHER MINISTRY MEMBERS, DREW SEVERAL CZECH MUSICIANS OF INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION, WERE UNAWARE OF THE EVENING'S POLITICAL DIMENSION. THEY WERE PLEASED WITH KIPNIS'S VIRTUOSITY, HIS WITTY, RELAXED EXPLANATIONS OF THE MUSIC AND INSTRUMENT. HIS PRESENTATION OF AN IMPORTANT BUT UNKNOWN PIECE BY A CZECH COMPOSER WAS WELL-RECEIVED, AS WAS HIS ROUSING AMERICAN ENCORE, A HARPISCHORD SETTING OF THE THEME MUSIC FROM THE FILM "THE STING."

6. COMMENT: AS HAS BEEN THE CASE AT SEVERAL RECENT CULTURAL-SOCIAL FUNCTIONS AT THE RESIDENCE, A HANDFUL OF IMPORTANT PRAGUE PERSONALITIES SHOWED UP FROM AMONG THE RANKS OF PEOPLE THE EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE CONTACT WITH BUT, WHO IN THE PAST, DECLINED INVITATIONS TO EVEN CULTURALLY-ORIENTED EVENTS. THIS INDICATES A SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT IN THE LOCAL CLIMATE RELATED, NO DOUBT, TO PROGRESS IN THE EXCHANGES AGREEMENTS.

BYRNE

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